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# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

Year 1943.

D. A. McCracken, M.D.





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## SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1943.

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	...	...	59,005
Population 1931 (census) Potterspury and Towcester R.Ds.							13,458
Number of separate dwellings occupied 1931 (census)							
						Potterspury and Towcester R.Ds.	3,771
" " " " occupied 1943	...	...	...	...	...		4,343
Rateable value 1943	...	...	...	...	...		£53,356
Product of a penny rate 1943				...	...		£218

### Live Births.

					<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Rate</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	231	125	106	
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	23	17	6	
								<b>18.55</b>
					254	142	112	

### Stillbirths.

					<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Rate</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	5	3	2	
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	1	1	—	
								<b>0.43</b>
					6	4	2	

					<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Rate</i>
<b>Deaths</b> (all causes)	...	...	...	...	193	97	96	<b>14.23</b>

### Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	...	...	...	...				<i>Nil.</i>
Other puerperal causes...	...	...	...	...				<i>Nil.</i>

### Infant Mortality—rate per 1,000 live births.

Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43.30
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.78
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	<b>55.11</b>

<b>Deaths from</b> Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...				24
" " Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...				1
" " Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...				<i>Nil.</i>
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...				<i>Nil.</i>





# Towcester Rural District Council.

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## *Members of the Public Health and Housing Committee :*

REVD. H. C. CARPENTER (Chairman), S. NORTH (Vice-Chairman),  
J. H. BROWN, J. A. GARLICK, W. T. GROOM, T. F. KINGSTON, J. V.  
LIDDINGTON, C.C., W. H. MARLOW, J. T. PINKARD, R. L. C.  
RIDGEWAY.

*The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council are ex-officio members  
of the Committee.*

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## *Public Health Officers of the Local Authority :*

Medical Officer of Health,

DAVID ANDREW MCCrackEN, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

*also holds appointments of*

Deputy County Medical Officer of Health.

Deputy School Medical Officer.

Medical Officer of Health, Borough of Higham Ferrers.

Medical Officer of Health, Rushden Urban District Council.

Medical Officer of Health, Irthlingborough Urban District Council.

Medical Officer, Kettering Venereal Diseases Treatment Centre.

## Chief Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor :

TOM HARRIS, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A. (who holds the Royal Sanitary  
Institute's Certificate for Meat Inspection).

## Assistant Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor :

D. J. POWELL, B.Sc., Cert.S.I.B., A.R.S.I.

TOWCESTER,

*September, 1944.*

**To the Chairman and Councillors of the Rural District of Towcester.**

MR. CHAIRMAN, MRS. HAWLEY, AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health on the health and sanitary circumstances of the district for 1943.

The vital statistics may be regarded as satisfactory. The birth rate continues to show an upward trend. The rate of 18.55 is the highest one recorded since 1921, and is in excess of that for the country as a whole. The death rate is in excess of that for England and Wales and is partly accounted for by the increase in the number of persons who died from circulatory diseases. In 1942, 61 persons died from heart disease, etc., as compared with 86 in 1943. The infant mortality rate shows an increase from 19.18 in 1942 to 55.11 in 1943.

The outstanding environmental services which the district requires urgently are comprehensive schemes for water supply, sewerage and sewage disposal, and, I am optimistic enough to believe that the day is not far distant when the schemes which have had your consideration will be brought to fruition. The extensive housing survey on which the Sanitary Inspectors and myself are about to embark will bring to light the housing situation and other sanitation details. The housing, water, and sewage problems are only too well recognised to call for detailed discussion, but, it has to be continually borne in mind that they are fundamental requirements essential to the mental and physical well-being of the population.

Apart from a few parish outbreaks of measles the zymotic diseases continue to remain at a low level of incidence. Since diphtheria immunisation was offered in 1941, no less than 2,508 children have been protected in the district. Results of this magnitude speaks highly for the work carried out by the County Medical and Nursing Staffs of the Maternity and Child Welfare Authority and the Education Committee.

I have been sustained in my efforts by the advice and assistance which continues to be afforded me by the members of the Council and for this I am grateful. I acknowledge with gratitude the most helpful advice and assistance I received during the year from the Executive Officers of the Council who are always willing to share the burden of the manifold war-time duties which fall to the lot of a Medical Officer of Health.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

D. A. McCracken,

*Medical Officer of Health.*



SECTION A.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

**Area**—The area of the district is 59,005 acres.

**Population**—The estimated mid-year population of the district is not available for publication.

**Deaths**—The total number of deaths assigned to the district by the Registrar-General after adjustment for inward and outward transfers was 193 as compared with 147 in 1942. The recorded death rate was equivalent to 14.23 per thousand of civilian population as compared with 12.1 for England and Wales. The following table shows the death rates for the quinquennium 1939-43 together with corresponding rates for England and Wales and the Administrative County so far as they are available. The ‘comparability’ factors for the standardisation of the death rates for 1941-43 are not available owing to the magnitude and variety of local population movements and the uneven distribution of civilian war deaths.

Death Rates 1939-43.

Towcester R.D.					Standardised Death Rate		
Year	Total	Male	Female	Recorded Rate	Towcester R.D.	Administrative County	England & Wales
1939	170	88	82	13.06	10.06	10.50	12.10
1940	219	110	109	16.55	13.40	11.30	14.30
1941	211	109	102	14.31	*	11.94‡	12.90
1942	147	76	71	10.47	*	11.02‡	11.60
1943	193	97	96	14.23	*	12.29‡	12.10

\* Not available.

‡ Recorded rate.

A list of the causes of death classified according to the International List of Causes of Death (1938) is given in Table No. 1, page 20, whilst the history of the rate for 1919-43 is shown in Table No. 3, page 22.

**Birth Rate**—The number of live births assigned to the district was 254 as compared with 244 in 1942, thus giving an increase of 3.9 per cent. The number of births was equivalent to 18.55 per thousand of population and was the highest rate recorded since 1921. The following table shows the trend of the birth rate for 1939-43, together with other figures for comparison.

### Birth Rates 1939-43.

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
Towcester R.D. ...	14.20	13.90	13.80	17.40	18.55
Administrative County	15.02	13.94	13.51	16.66	17.91
England and Wales ...	15.00	14.60	14.20	15.80	16.50

**Maternal Mortality**—It is gratifying to report that no deaths were assigned to puerperal causes or other conditions associated with childbirth.

**Stillbirth Rate**—The number of stillbirths registered was six as compared with ten in 1942. This number is equivalent to 0.43 per thousand of population as compared with 0.5 for England and Wales.

**Illegitimate Birth Rate**—Twenty-three illegitimate live births were registered as compared with eleven during the previous year. This gives a rate of 90.5 per thousand live births and contrasts with the rate of 45.0 for 1942.

**Infant Mortality**—Fourteen infants (11 legitimate, 3 illegitimate), who died under one year, were assigned by the Registrar-General to the district, thus giving a total infant mortality rate of 55.11. The rates for the quinquennium, 1939-43, together with comparisons are :

### Deaths under one year per 1,000 live Births.

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
Towcester R.D.	27.11(5)	36.95(7)	68.96(14)	49.18(12)	55.11(14)*
Administrative					
County ...	40.40	40.30	48.10	34.50	40.38
England and					
Wales ...	50.00	55.00	59.00	40.00	49.00

\* Three less recorded locally.

**Neonatal Mortality**—Infants who die within twenty-eight days of independent existence are classified as neonatal deaths and as such are included in the total infant mortality rate. The neonatal death rate per 1,000 live births together with the nett number of deaths was for 1939-43 :

1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
16.30(2)	27.71(5)	24.63(5)	24.54(6)	31.49(8)

As will be noted from Table No. 2, page 21, the majority of the deaths occurred in infants within the first week of life.

## SECTION B.

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

**Laboratory facilities**—There is no change in the arrangements described in the annual report for 1939-42.

**Diphtheria Antitoxin**—A supply of antitoxin continues to be maintained at the Town Hall in accordance with the provisions of the Diphtheria (outside London) Order, 1910, and is available free of charge to medical practitioners for use in the district.

**Ambulance facilities**—Non-infectious and accident cases are removed by the St. John Ambulance Brigade ambulance stationed at Towcester. The service is efficient and meets the needs of the district. Cases of infectious disease are removed by the ambulance maintained by the Western Northamptonshire Joint Isolation Hospital Board.

**Nursing in the Home**—The following list gives details of the work which has been carried out by the nursing associations in the district, who make the services of their district nurse-midwives available for nursing in the home.

<i>Association.</i>	<i>Cases Nursed.</i>			<i>Total</i>
	<i>General</i>	<i>Midwifery</i>	<i>Maternity</i>	
1. Blakesley and District ...	44	8	9	1606
2. Gayton ... ..	127	30	13	4049
3. Potterspury, Stoke Bruerne and District ...	37	8	19	2306
4. Towcester ... ..	38	22	6	1440
5. Whittlebury ... ..	21	16	14	1720
6. Wicken ... ..	112	10	24	3651
TOTAL ... ..	379	94	85	14772

**Hospitals**—There are no hospitals in the district.

**Hospital Accommodation for Infectious Diseases**—The local authority is one of the constituent authorities of the Western Northamptonshire Joint Isolation Hospital Board. The hospital is situated at Staverton near Daventry. The precept levied on the Council by the Board for 1943 was £583.



**Nurseries**—A nursery for the reception of evacuee children under five years of age is situated at Duncote Hall, near Towcester. The nursery is administered by the Health Department of the County Council. The accommodation is reserved for children who have been evacuated from danger areas.

**Treatment Centres and Clinics**—Child Welfare Clinics provided by the County Council, are held once each month at Potterspury and Towcester. Diphtheria immunisation is carried out at these clinics. An antenatal clinic is also held once monthly at Towcester.

## SECTION C.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

**Water Supply**—The maintenance of a reasonable supply of water for domestic use has with the exception of a few parishes been one of constant anxiety. In brief, the general situation regarding the provision of a wholesome and adequate water supply is one of prime urgency throughout the whole of the district, not only for human beings but also for the bovines.

The adoption of Section 190(4) of the Local Government Act, 1933 by abolishing special rates in individual parishes has cleared the financial road for the provision of comprehensive schemes for water supply, sewerage, and sewage disposal. The passing into law of the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Bill which makes provision for grants from the Government and County Councils, will also be of much assistance to local authorities in providing adequate piped water supplies and sewerage.

The Northampton Corporation Act, 1943 (S.49) makes provision for excluding from the Corporation's statutory area of supply the parishes of Blisworth, Cold Higham, Gayton, Green's Norton, Pattishall, Shutlanger, Stoke Bruerne and Tiffield when a scheme for any or all of the parishes has been approved by the Minister of Health. The necessary notice that Green's Norton has been provided with a water supply has been served on the Corporation, and a scheme for the provision of a water supply for the other villages has been prepared by a consulting engineer and submitted to the Ministry of Health and the County Council, but the scheme has been held in abeyance due to war time conditions.

**Sewage disposal, drainage and sewerage**—No work of importance has been undertaken.

**Rivers Pollution Prevention Act, 1876**—Low rainfall resulted in complaints being received as to the state of the Silverstone and Deanshanger brooks, which receive sullage water from the villages. Complaints of this nature will continue to be received until such times as suitable arrangements are provided for the treatment of sewage.

**Disinfection**—The disinfection of bedding and clothing is carried out by means of a portable 'Thresh' disinfectator. Concurrent and terminal disinfection is carried out by means of gaseous and liquid disinfectants in homes where infectious disease is notified.

**Eradication of Bed Bugs**—No action was found necessary.

**Moveable Dwellings**—No licences were granted by the Council under the Public Health Act, 1936, Section 269.

**Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919**—No major infestations came to the notice of the Sanitary Inspector.

**Public Cleansing**—The scheme for the regular collection of house refuse as described in 1938, continues to be satisfactory.

Further details of the work carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors is given in Table No. 4, page 23.



## SECTION D.

### HOUSING.

A pair of war-time cottages were erected for agricultural workers in each of the villages of Alderton ; Cold Higham and Paulerspury. The houses built are well appointed and of the parlour, three-bedroom type. Owing to the short supply of timber, steel was widely used in the construction of the houses. An interesting feature of the houses is that sound proofing has been incorporated in the party walls.

The problem of housing accommodation remains very acute throughout the district. In order to relieve the position, the council have allowed owners to let condemned houses temporarily under the terms of the Defence (General) Regulations 1939, 68A and 68AA. A total of eighty-six houses have been licenced on condition that the houses are maintained to the satisfaction of the Medical Officer of Health and the Chief Sanitary Inspector, and that the weekly rent charged should not exceed 3/- exclusive of rates. Many of the houses licenced are in a dilapidated condition but their occupation, whilst undesirable, makes a contribution to the pressing housing needs of the district. Details of the individual parishes and the numbers of houses licenced, are as follows :

<i>Parish.</i>	<i>Number of Houses.</i>
Cosgrove .....	17
Gayton .....	7
Grafton Regis .....	3
Green's Norton .....	23
Passenham .....	7
Parrishall .....	4
Potterspury .....	7
Silverstone .....	5
Towcester .....	12
Wicken .....	1
TOTAL .....	<hr/> 86 <hr/>

I regret to place on record that the new housing estate at Silverstone is not yet available for the tenants who are due to be re-housed from condemned properties in the village.

A First Year Post-war housing programme for the construction of 100 houses has received the approval of the Ministry of Health. Sites have been selected in the following villages in consultation with the County Planning Officer and the Rural Land Utilisation Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture. The selection of the particular villages for the first post-war year houses was determined on the availability of a water supply.

<i>Parish.</i>	<i>Number of Houses.</i>
Abthorpe .....	4
Blakesley .....	4
Cosgrove .....	4
Gayton .....	4
Green's Norton .....	6
Maidford .....	2
Passenham .....	6
Paulerspury .....	4
Potterspury .....	10
Silverstone .....	10
Stoke Bruerne .....	2
Towcester .....	28
Whittlebury .....	4
Wicken .....	4
Yardley Gobion .....	8
TOTAL .....	<hr/> 100 <hr/>

The usual Table of housing statistics is given on page 24. Full details of the housing activities of the local authority since 1932 was given in detail in pages 30-41 of the 1939-42 annual reports.

## SECTION E.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

**Milk and Dairies Order, 1926**—The number of cowsheds on the register as at 31st December was 212, and the following inspections were carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors :

Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	...	157
Cowsheds, defects found and remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Cowsheds, reconstructed or reconditioned	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Milk samples taken	...	...	...	...	...	...	75
Total							250

**Milk Sampling**—Samples of milk taken during the course of delivery to the consumers, were taken at regular intervals by the Sanitary Inspectors and submitted to the County Laboratory for bacteriological tests for cleanliness and keeping qualities. The number of samples submitted for examination and the classification of the results were :

#### KEEPING QUALITY.

GOOD.		MODERATE.		BAD.		TOTAL.
No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.
39	52.00	18	24.00	18	24.00	75

Further statistical details are given in Table No. 6 page 25.

**Food Premises**—The following visits of inspection were made by the Sanitary Inspectors :

Meat hawkers' vans	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Fish hawkers' vans	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Fried fish hawkers' vans	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fruit hawkers' vans	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Provision vans	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Total							25

**Meat Inspection, etc.**—The number of premises where slaughtering was carried out was as follows :



Slaughterhouses licenced	...	...	...	...	...	4
Slaughterhouses registered	...	...	...	...	...	23
Total						<hr/> 27 <hr/>

The following visits were paid to slaughterhouses and butchers' shops for the purposes of the Rural District Councils (Slaughterhouses) Order, 1924.

Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	106
Butchers' shops	...	...	...	...	...	43
Total						<hr/> 149 <hr/>

Details of the quantities of meat and other foods surrendered and destroyed are given in Table No. 7, page 25.

## SECTION F.

### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

**Smallpox**—No cases were reported.

**Scarlet Fever**—Twenty-five cases were notified during the year as compared with thirteen in 1942. The cases occurred in eight parishes. The largest number of cases which were notified in any parish was six. The cases were of mild clinical type and no deaths occurred.

**Diphtheria**—Two cases were notified, one at Cold Higham and the other at Towcester. Both were due to infection by *C. diphtheriæ gravis*. One of the cases was a child of nine years who suffered from nasal diphtheria. She had not been immunised. Recovery took place. The second case, which was fatal, occurred in an adult aged 59 years. Death was due to complications.

**Diphtheria Immunisation**—The scheme described in 1942 continued in operation with very successful results. The following table shows the rate of progress of the scheme.

**Estimated Number of Children Immunised, 1943.**

	0—5 years		5—15 years	
	No.	Estimated %	No.	Estimated %
June ...	173	66	73	89
December ...	128	67	50	88

It is estimated that the total number of children immunised against diphtheria as at 31st December, 1943, was 620 under five years, and 1,888 between five and fifteen years.

**Puerperal Pyrexia**—No cases were notified under the Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations, 1939.

**Pneumonia**—The incidence of notifiable pneumonia was heavy as compared with 1942. There were twenty-five cases notified as compared with fourteen in 1942. The maximum number of cases notified in any month took place in December. The disease 'pneumonia' was assigned as the primary cause of death in nine cases as compared with ten in 1942.

**Erysipelas**—One case only was notified. Recovery took place.

**Cerebro-spinal fever**—Four cases of meningococcal meningitis were notified during the month of February. All cases occurred in one family consisting of ten persons who were living in an isolated house under overcrowded conditions.

**Parish of Pattishall**—The sequence of events in this interesting outbreak was that a child aged two years became suddenly ill on the evening of 1st February. The following day she was actively sick at 8 a.m. and during the same afternoon developed the signs and symptoms of meningeal irritation. Her condition rapidly deteriorated and she succumbed to the infection at 9.15 p.m. the same evening. On 4th February the deceased's sister aged eleven years complained of headache while at school. She was sent home from school but appeared to be well when put to bed at 8 p.m. When seen by me on the following morning at 11.30 a.m. she had developed the clinical signs and symptoms of meningitis, whilst in addition she had a few petechial spots on the right upper quadrant of the abdomen. She was sharing the same bed as her sister, aged six years who had been actively sick on the evening of 4th February. This child was also suffering from meningitis but did not show any signs of the haemorrhagic rash. Both cases were removed to the Northampton General Hospital by the ambulance of the East Northants Joint Isolation Hospital Board after receiving injections of Soluseptasine by the family physician. The mother did not feel well on the 6th February but was able to shop in the village at 1 p.m. By 6 p.m. she had become acutely ill with meningitis. She was removed to hospital. It was obvious that one was dealing with a causal organism of a very virulent nature which was getting out of hand as the result of unsatisfactory sleeping accommodation. The remainder of the persons at risk were given Sulphathiazole (M. and B. 760) orally in doses ranging from 0.125 Gm. for a baby of ten months to 0.5 Gm. thrice daily for three days for an adult. No further cases occurred in the family and the patients removed to hospital recovered.

**Measles**—The anticipated biennial outbreak of measles took place in the district from December, 1942 - June, 1943. The morbidity of the epidemic accounted for 171 cases, whilst the maximum incidence fell on the 5-15 years age group. The cases were notified from nine parishes. The heaviest parish incidence took place in Silverstone and Whittlebury as contrasted with the 1940-41 epidemic when the incidence fell heaviest on the parishes of Passenham, Pattishall, Paulerspury and Potterspury. The incidence amongst the population was for 1943, 11.7 per 1,000 as compared with 9.88 for England and Wales. The disease was of mild clinical type but one death due to respiratory complications was recorded.

**Whooping Cough**—A total of thirty-one cases were notified and all but three occurred in the parishes of Passenham, Pattishall, Paulerspury and Potterspury which were relatively free from measles during the year. The outbreak of whooping cough in these parishes thus conformed to type by alternating with an epidemic phase of measles. In contrast to the age incidence of measles this disease had a predilection for children under five years of age. The disease was of mild type and no deaths occurred.

**Closure of Schools**—No action was considered necessary under Article 57 of the Elementary Educational Provisional Code, 1922, which is as follows :



‘ If the Sanitary Authority of the district in which the school is situate, or any two members thereof acting on the advice of the Medical Officer of Health, require the closure of the school or any department thereof or the excluding of certain children for a specified time, with a view to preventing the spread of disease or any danger to health likely to arise from the condition of the school, such requirement must at once be complied with.’

**Tuberculosis**—There were fourteen new cases of tuberculosis notified as compared with thirteen in 1942. Thirteen cases had pulmonary manifestations (four males, nine females) and one female suffered from a non-pulmonary lesion. Two males and two females succumbed to the infection. The age and sex incidence of new cases, and deaths from the disease are given in Table No. 11, page 28.

The number of deaths during the quinquennium 1939-43 together with mortality rates for the administrative County and the district are as follows :

<i>Years</i>	<i>Tuberculosis—all forms</i>			<i>Rate per 1,000 of population</i>	
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Towcester</i>	<i>County</i>
1939	1	—	1	0.07	0.49
1940	3	4	7	0.52	0.58
1941	2	2	4	0.27	0.50
1942	2	—	2	0.14	0.49
1943	3	1	4	0.28	0.50

No action was considered necessary under the Public Health (Pre-vention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Full statistical details showing age, monthly and parish incidence for infectious diseases are shown in Tables Nos. 8-12, pages 26-28.

# SECTION G.

## STATISTICAL TABLES.

TABLE No. 1.

### CAUSES OF DEATH, 1943.

<i>Causes of Death</i>					<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
1.	Typhoid and paratyphoid fever	...	...	...	—	—	—
2.	Cerebro-spinal fever	...	...	...	—	—	—
3.	Scarlet fever	...	...	...	—	—	—
4.	Whooping cough	...	...	...	—	—	—
5.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	1	1	—
6.	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	...	3	2	1
7.	Other forms of tuberculosis	...	...	...	1	—	1
8.	Syphilitic diseases	...	...	...	1	—	1
9.	Influenza	...	...	...	4	1	3
10.	Measles	...	...	...	1	—	1
11.	Acute polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis	...	...	...	—	—	—
12.	Acute infective encephalitis	...	...	...	—	—	—
13.	Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (M), uterus (F)	...	...	...	5	—	5
14.	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	5	3	2
15.	Cancer of breast	...	...	...	1	—	1
16.	Cancer of all other sites	...	...	...	13	8	5
17.	Diabetes	...	...	...	3	—	3
18.	Intra-cranial vascular lesions	...	...	...	17	8	9
19.	Heart disease	...	...	...	60	28	32
20.	Other diseases of circulatory system	...	...	...	8	6	2
21.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	13	4	9
22.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	9	2	7
23.	Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	1	—	1
24.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...	...	...	—	—	—
25.	Diarrhoea under 2 years	...	...	...	—	—	—
26.	Appendicitis	...	...	...	1	1	—
27.	Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	2	2	—
28.	Nephritis	...	...	...	6	6	—
29.	Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis	...	...	...	—	—	—
30.	Other maternal causes	...	...	...	—	—	—
31.	Premature birth	...	...	...	3	3	—
32.	Congenital malformations, birth injury and infantile diseases	...	...	...	5	5	—
33.	Suicide	...	...	...	1	1	—
34.	Road traffic accidents	...	...	...	4	3	1
35.	Other violent causes	...	...	...	5	2	3
36.	All other causes	...	...	...	20	11	9
ALL CAUSES					193	97	96

TABLE No. 2.

## CAUSES OF DEATH OF CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR, 1943.

<i>Causes of Death.</i>	<i>Age in weeks</i>					<i>Total</i>
	<i>—1</i>	<i>—2</i>	<i>—3</i>	<i>—4</i>	<i>5-52</i>	
I. Congenital malformations ...	—	1	—	1	—	2
II. Diseases of early infancy						
Congenital debility and icterus ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Premature birth ...	3	—	—	—	—	3
Injury at birth ...	2	—	—	—	—	2
Atelectasis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Others ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
III. Diseases of Respiratory system ...	—	—	—	1	1	2
IV. Diseases of Digestive system	—	—	—	—	—	—
V. Diseases of Nervous system	—	—	—	—	—	—
VI. Tuberculous diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
VII. Infectious diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
VIII. Syphilis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
IX. Overlaying ...	—	—	—	—	1	1
X. Other violence ...	—	—	—	—	1	1
XI. All other causes ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	5	1	—	2	3	11



TABLE NO. 3.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1943 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year	Estimated Population	Births		Deaths			
				Under 1 year		All Ages	
		No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
*1911	10,484	—	—	—	—	—	—
1919	†9,387	156	16.61	7	44.87	158	17.53
	‡9,011						
1920	9,370	259	27.64	15	57.90	146	15.58
*1921	9,920	211	21.27	21	99.52	131	13.20
1922	9,937	172	17.30	9	52.32	136	13.68
1923	9,944	171	17.19	9	52.63	120	12.06
1924	10,000	162	16.20	9	55.50	115	11.50
1925	9,959	150	15.06	8	53.33	123	12.35
1926	9,870	152	15.40	5	32.89	116	11.75
1927	9,887	144	14.56	8	55.55	115	11.63
1928	9,502	134	14.10	4	29.85	120	12.63
1929	9,398	139	14.79	6	43.16	138	14.68
1930	9,384	115	12.25	8	69.56	129	13.74
*1931	9,324	131	14.04	7	53.43	104	11.11
1932	9,324	118	12.65	0	00.00	114	12.22
1933	9,271	147	15.85	4	27.21	96	10.35
1934	9,200	114	12.39	5	43.80	132	14.34
1935	x13,155	180	13.67	7	38.88	181	13.75
1936	13,040	210	16.10	10	47.60	165	12.60
1937	12,900	170	13.20	9	52.90	197	15.30
1938	12,860	152	11.80	4	26.30	182	14.20
1939	†12,930	184	14.20	5	27.11	170	13.06
	‡13,020						
1940	13,290	184	13.90	7	36.95	219	16.55
1941	14,750	203	13.80	14	68.96	211	14.31
1942	14,050	244	17.40	12	49.18	147	10.47
1943	—	254	18.55	14	55.11	193	14.23

† Population for calculation of Birth-rates.  
‡ Population for calculation of Death Rates.  
x Potterspury R.D. added to district.  
\* Census years.

TABLE No. 4.

## SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTIONS, ETC., 1943

No. of visits and inspections	...	...	...	...	...	2,805
Canal Boats inspected	...	...	...	...	...	<i>nil.</i>
Canal Boats, defects found and remedied	...	...	...	...	...	<i>nil.</i>
Slaughterhouses licensed	...	...	...	...	...	4
Slaughterhouses on register	...	...	...	...	...	23
Visits to slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	106
Visits to butchers' shops	...	...	...	...	...	43
No. of Meat hawkers' vans inspected	...	...	...	...	...	9
No. of Fish hawkers' vans inspected	...	...	...	...	...	2
No. of Fruit hawkers' vans inspected	...	...	...	...	...	2
No. of Fried Fish hawkers' vans inspected	...	...	...	...	...	1
Provision vans inspected	...	...	...	...	...	3
Bakehouses inspected	...	...	...	...	...	8
Privies converted to pail closets	...	...	...	...	...	<i>nil.</i>
Pails to water closets	...	...	...	...	...	<i>nil.</i>
Caravans inspected	...	...	...	...	...	<i>nil.</i>
Cowsheds on register	...	...	...	...	...	212
Cowsheds inspected	...	...	...	...	...	157
Cowsheds, defects found and remedied	...	...	...	...	...	15
Cowsheds reconstructed and reconditioned	...	...	...	...	...	3
Outfall works cleaned out	...	...	...	...	...	16
Settling tanks cleaned out	...	...	...	...	...	25
Cesspools cleaned out	...	...	...	...	...	5
Rooms disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	32
Articles of clothing and bedding disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	575
Drains tested by water test	...	...	...	...	...	7
Drains tested by smoke test	...	...	...	...	...	44
Drains reconstructed to houses after defects found	...	...	...	...	...	<i>nil.</i>
Nuisances from untrapped drains	...	...	...	...	...	7
Nuisances from blocked drains	...	...	...	...	...	139
Nuisances from defects in houses	...	...	...	...	...	72
Nuisances from offensive ditches	...	...	...	...	...	21
No. of new Houses erected by private enterprise	...	...	...	...	...	<i>nil.</i>
No. of new Houses erected by Council	...	...	...	...	...	6
Notices served :						
Informal under S.92, Public Health Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	...	8
Statutory under S.92 of Public Health Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	...	4

TABLE No. 5.

**HOUSING.****1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year—**

1.	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses inspected for defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	52
	(b)	Inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	73
2.	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidated Reg. 1925/32	...	...	...	...	<i>nil.</i>
	(b)	Inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	<i>nil.</i>
3.		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...				3
4.		Dwelling-houses (exclusive of those under preceding sub-head) not in all respects reasonably fit for habitation	...			...	49

**2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notice—**

Number of houses rendered fit in consequence of action by Local Authority or Officers :

Housing Act	...	...	...	...	...	<i>nil.</i>
Public Health Act	...	...	...	...	...	48

**3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year—***A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 Housing Act, 1936*

1.		Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	...	<i>nil.</i>
2.		Dwelling-houses rendered fit after service of formal notice.					
	(a)	By owners	...	...	...	...	<i>nil.</i>
	(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	...			...	<i>nil.</i>

*B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.*

1.		Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	...	...	12
2.		Dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—					
	(a)	By owners	...	...	...	...	4
	(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	...			...	<i>nil.</i>

*C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.*

1.		Dwelling-houses in respect of demolition Order	...		...	<i>nil.</i>
2.		Dwelling-houses demolished	...	...	...	<i>nil.</i>

*D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.*

1.		Separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	<i>nil.</i>
2.		Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined	...	...	...	<i>nil.</i>

**4. Housing Act, 1936—Part 4—Overcrowding—**

Present position unknown.



TABLE NO. 6.

SAMPLES OF MILK TAKEN FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL TESTS OF  
CLEANLINESS AND KEEPING QUALITIES, 1943.

Month		No.	Good	Moderate	Bad
January	...	7	1	5	1
February	...	8	8	—	—
March	... ..	—	—	—	—
April	... ..	8	5	3	—
May	... ..	9	5	2	2
June	... ..	8	1	2	5
July	... ..	4	1	—	3
August	... ..	—	—	—	—
September	...	6	1	—	5
October	... ..	13	8	3	2
November	...	6	5	1	—
December	...	6	4	2	—
TOTALS	...	75	39	18	18

TABLE NO. 7.

FOOD SURRENDERED AND DESTROYED.

	<i>Tins</i>
Tinned Milk .....	52
Tinned Dried Milk .....	24
Tinned Fish .....	17
Tinned Fruit .....	83
Tinned Vegetables .....	86
Tinned Soup .....	2
Tinned Jam .....	2
	<i>cwts. qrs. lbs.</i>
Tinned Meat (36 tins) .....	3 20
Meat .....	5 1 22
1 Sack Flour .....	1 1 0

TABLE NO. 8.

AGE INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES  
(Other than Tuberculosis) 1943

<i>Disease</i>	—1	—2	—3	—4	—5	—10	—15	—20	—35	—45	—65	65+	<i>All Ages</i>	<i>Removed to Hospital</i>	<i>Deaths</i>
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	—	1	4	8	5	1	3	1	2	—	25	9	
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	2	1
Pneumonia ...	2	1	3	—	—	4	2	1	1	—	6	5	25	—	9
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Cerebro-spinal fever ...	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	4	3	—
Measles ...	5	10	12	14	17	87	10	3	2	1	—	—	161	—	1
Whooping cough	4	3	3	3	5	11	1	—	1	—	—	—	31	—	—
Totals ...	11	14	19	18	26	112	19	5	7	3	9	6	249	14	11

TABLE NO. 9.

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES  
(Other than Tuberculosis) 1943

<i>Disease.</i>	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTALS
Small-pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever ...	1	—	3	4	2	—	2	5	2	6	—	—	25
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Pneumonia ...	3	4	2	1	4	1	1	—	—	—	2	7	25
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Cerebro-spinal fever ...	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Measles ...	19	51	17	17	20	36	1	—	—	—	—	—	161
Whooping cough	2	1	10	8	4	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	31
Totals ...	25	60	32	30	30	37	4	5	4	6	6	10	249

TABLE No. 10.

**INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (*other than Tuberculosis*)  
IN INDIVIDUAL PARISHES, 1943**

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Scarlet Fever</i>	<i>Diphtheria</i>	<i>Pneumonia</i>	<i>Cerebro- spinal Fever</i>	<i>Erysipelas</i>	<i>Measles</i>	<i>Whooping Cough</i>	<i>Total</i>
Blakesley	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	2
Blisworth	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Cold Higham	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Cosgrove	—	—	3	—	—	9	1	13
Gayton	1	—	—	—	—	9	—	10
Grafton Regis	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Green's Norton	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Passenham	6	—	8	—	—	—	9	23
Pattishall	3	—	2	4	—	4	3	16
Paulerspury	1	—	2	—	—	2	11	16
Potterspury	1	—	1	—	—	1	5	8
Silverstone	4	—	1	—	—	50	—	55
Tiffield	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Towcester	4	1	4	—	—	63	—	72
Whittlebury	—	—	1	—	—	22	—	23
Yardley Gobion	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Totals	25	2	25	4	1	161	31	249



TABLE NO. 11.

NEW CASES OF AND DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1943.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Respiratory		Non-respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
— 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
— 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—15	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
—25	2	4	—	—	1	—	—	—
—35	1	2	1	—	1	—	—	1
—45	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
—55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—65	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
65+	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	4	9	1	—	2	1	—	1

TABLE NO. 12.

BIRTH RATES, CIVILIAN DEATH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY AND  
CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES FOR TOWCESTER  
RURAL DISTRICT AND ENGLAND AND WALES, 1943.

					England and Wales	Towcester
Live Births	...	...	...	...	16.50	18.55
Stillbirths	...	...	...	...	0.50	0.43
Deaths—						
All Causes	...	...	...	...	12.10	14.23
Typhoid	...	...	...	...	0.00	0.00
Scarlet fever	...	...	...	...	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	0.03	0.00
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	0.03	0.07
Influenza	...	...	...	...	0.37	0.21
Deaths under one year	...	...	...	...	49.00	55.11
Notifications—						
Typhoid	...	...	...	...	0.01	0.00
Cerebro-spinal fever	...	...	...	...	0.08	0.21
Scarlet fever	...	...	...	...	3.01	1.82
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	2.54	2.26
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	0.88	0.14
Measles	...	...	...	...	9.88	11.76
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	1.34	1.82





